

Docket No.: 112910.3302

PATENT/OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

MURPHY, et al.

Serial No. 09/628,803

Filed: July 28, 2000

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR ALLEVIATING STUTTERING



: Group Art Unit: 1617

: Examiner: S. HUI

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 14, 2001, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 21 and 22-32, without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Restriction Requirement

Responsive to the requirement for restriction, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-20 and 33, collectively labeled as Group I, with traverse. As the Examiner is aware, a restriction requirement is proper when the claimed inventions are independent or distinct and when there is a serious burden on the Examiner to search the subject matter covered by the instant claims. The search required to examine claim 21 in Group II and claims 22-32 in Group III appear to Applicants to be an acceptable and reasonable extension of any search required for Group I. It is respectfully submitted that any additional search in and of itself is not an excuse to impose a restriction requirement.